

Virginia Department of Health Pandemic Influenza Monthly Activity Report April 30, 2007

WORLDWIDE UPDATE

• As of April 20, 2007, the World Health Organization (WHO) reports a total of 291 human cases of avian influenza A (H5N1), resulting in 172 deaths (59.1%). Since the previous report there have been no new humans cases diagnosed.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced the first approval in the United States of a vaccine for humans against the influenza A (H5N1) virus. The vaccine could be used in the event the current H5N1 avian virus develops the capability to efficiently spread from human to human. Should such an influenza pandemic emerge, the vaccine may provide early limited protection in the months before a vaccine tailored to the pandemic strain of the virus could be developed and produced. The vaccine is intended for immunizing people 18-64 years of age at increased risk of exposure to the H5N1 influenza virus. Immunization requires two intramuscular injections, given approximately one month apart. The manufacturer, sanofi pasteur Inc., will not sell the vaccine commercially. Instead, the vaccine has been purchased by the federal government for inclusion within the Strategic National Stockpile for distribution by public health officials as required.

A summary of the second WHO consultation (held March 19-21, 2007) on clinical aspects of human infection with avian influenza (H5N1) virus was posted at www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/meeting19_03_2007/en/index.html. Since the last meeting, in May 2005, eight new countries have reported human infections with avian influenza A (H5N1) viruses. Clinicians, epidemiologists, virologists and public health specialists from the countries with human cases, and experts in pulmonary medicine, critical care, and influenza attended the meeting to share their experiences. Some important results of the meeting were:

- Experience with early oseltamivir (Tamiflu) treatment suggests its usefulness in reducing H5N1-associated mortality. Evidence suggests that treatment is warranted even with late presentation.
- Modified regimens of oseltamivir treatment, including higher dosage, longer duration, and possibly combination therapy with amantadine (in countries where the H5N1 virus is susceptible to amantadine) may be considered on a case by case basis, especially in patients with pneumonia or progressive disease.
- o Steroid therapy has failed so far to show effectiveness; prolonged or high dose corticosteroids can result in serious adverse events in H5N1 patients.
- Antibiotic prophylaxis should not be used. When pneumonia is present, antibiotic treatment is appropriate initially for community-acquired pneumonia - when available the results of microbiologic studies should be used to guide antibiotic usage.
- Therapy for H5N1-associated respiratory distress syndrome, including the use of ventilators for lung protection, should be based upon published evidence-based guidelines.

VDH ACTIVITIES – Central Office

- Deputy Commissioner EP&R and State Emergency Planning Coordinator briefed the Virginia Military Affairs Council on collaborative PanFlu planning initiatives between VDH, localities and DOD Installations.
- State Emergency Planning Coordinator briefed the Board of Health on PanFlu Planning.
- State PanFlu Plan (Health and Non-Health) Abstracts and new draft Community Containment and Antiviral Distribution Plan Drafts were submitted to HHS / CDC for Federal Interagency Review.
- Deputy Commissioner EP&R spoke in the VCU School of Nursing about Public Health Preparedness and PanFlu Planning and at VCU's National Public Health Week on Public Health Preparedness and PanFlu Planning from the state perspective.
- Deputy Commissioner EP&R spoke to the Northern Virginia Regional Planning Advisory Committee of the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness on state PanFlu planning in Springfield, VA, at the Northern Virginia Community College.
- Pandemic Influenza Advisory Committee held its quarterly meeting. Discussion focused on the state plans submitted to the CDC, as well as planning in schools and the private business sector.
- Deputy Commissioner EP&R addressed the Secure Commonwealth Panel meeting in Williamsburg, VA, on state planning for PanFlu.
- Deputy Commissioner EP&R participated in a discussion of resource allocation during an influenza pandemic at a meeting of physicians in Charlottesville, VA, organized by the Thomas Jefferson Health District.
- Health Districts and EP&R Regions continue community outreach and coordinated PanFlu planning (refer to attached VDH Pandemic Flu Activities Progress Report).

VDH Pandemic Flu Activities Progress Report

VDH ACTIVITIES – Regional Reports

• Eastern Region

- o Trainer and Administrative Assistant are assisting the Chesapeake Health Department to plan their Business Continuity Planning Seminar to be held on June 27, 2007.
- O PIO facilitated a session on Risk Communication at the Three Rivers Health Department Continuity Planning Seminar; Trainer also assisted Three Rivers with their Continuity Planning Seminar. The Medical Consultant gave a presentation on the Pre-Pandemic Planning Guidance: Community Strategies for PanFlu Mitigation at Seminar, as well.
- o Medical Consultant gave a presentation on PanFlu Planning at the Virginia Dietary Managers Association Semi-Annual Statewide Meeting.
- o Medical Consultant attended a Sentara Medical Officers PanFlu Planning Meeting.
- o Medical Consultant attended the State PanFlu Advisory Committee Meeting.

• Northern Region

- Team members met with DC and Maryland representatives to review Federal Medical Stations for potential use during PanFlu and other mass casualty or mass sheltering events. DHHS requesting site assessments in NCR for deployment of FMS assets. Will coordinate site assessment process with VDEM.
- o NVHA (local hospitals), regional team and local planners initiating ongoing planning team for alternative care facilities.
- Planner providing state and local plans to Alexandria consulting team assigned to further develop Alexandria PanFlu plan. Assisting in coordinating Alexandria planning process with region.
- o Local health districts continue outreach training and education.
- Planner met with Alexandria consultants to continue work on Alternate Care facilities and Community Care Centers (CCC). Coordinated meetings of consultants with Alexandria Inova Hospital and NoVa RHCC.
- Identified Fairfax County organization of faith based organizations, <u>Faith</u>
 <u>Communities in Action.</u> Continuing to seek faith based organizations in other health districts.

• Northwest Region

- o Regional Industrial Hygienist gave PanFlu presentation and respiratory protection presentation in Montross, Va.
- Completed monthly emergency communications check, including all back-up communications systems, as part of VERTEX exercise. These included satellite phones, SWAN, GETS card, etc., which would be used in a pandemic if normal communications systems were overwhelmed.
- O Developing an 800 Mhz capability to provide a redundant form of communications throughout the region in a pandemic emergency, with particular emphasis on communications with local EOCs. The Regional 800 Mhz system will be included as part of the UVA-Charlottesville-Albemarle County 800 Mhz system.

• Southwest Region

Planner and Trainer conducted Advanced Incident Management Systems (IMS)
 Training and Incident Command Systems (ICS) Refresher Training for 64 staff
 members of the Cumberland Plateau Health District. This training would be used

- during an outbreak of PanFlu as well as other all hazards events that have the potential to occur in the CPHD.
- O SW Districts' Planners and Epidemiologists and members of the SW Regional Team attended a WEB EOC refresher and training class sponsored by the SW Regional Team and the Near SW Preparedness Alliance (NSPA). This training would be used during an outbreak as well as other all hazards events that have the potential to occur. This training was coordinated by the Trainer.
- O Planner met with the Manager of Safety and Loss Prevention from Wythe Community Hospital to discuss their EOP, in particular the PanFlu Plan. A discussion was generated around mandatory maintenance of limited infrastructure with limited numbers of employees. Discussion of alternate care sites was explored with no recommendations being generated at this time.
- Planner committed to the Va. Health Care Association to be a speaker at their annual convention addressing the issues of Emergency Planning including the need for PanFlu Planning.
- Planner and the Mt. Rogers District Planner met with the Marion DOC Management Team and discussed their response plan for a PanFlu outbreak and their plans for PanFlu medication of their special needs population, staff and families of staff.
 Another meeting is planned for early June.
- PIO attended the HAZMAT/decon procedures training at Carilion New River Valley Medical Center that might be implemented during a PanFlu outbreak or other chemical or bio-terror event.
- o Trainer began developing a self-study course for the NRP 800.

VDH ACTIVITIES – Health District Reports

• Alexandria

- o Work proceeding with contractors on Fatality Management, Medical Surge and Communications with the Public annexes of City PanFlu plan.
- o Town Forum concerning PanFlu scheduled for May 30.
- o Revised Train-the-Trainer Power Point presentation.
- o PanFlu brochure to be directly distributed to 72,000 households in Alexandria in conjunction with quarterly mailing from City; it is being translated in to Amharic, Arabic and Spanish.

• Arlington

- Surveys of private medical doctors' offices have been sent via blast fax. Data is expected to be put into the survey instrument over the next couple of months.
 Follow-up calls to physicians' offices will also take place.
- Planner continues to work on a comprehensive review of the local public health response plans identifying gaps based on the VDH and HHS guidance for pandemic influenza and the Public Health Ready criteria. Focus is on developing and implementing documents that will enhance operability – such as workflow diagrams, standard operating procedures, templates, and checklists.
- o Arlington County continues to work on planning for the management of mass fatalities through monthly meetings. Comments on Version 4 have been received and revisions are being made to a Version 5. This work is being done in partnership with law enforcement, EMS, Virginia Hospital Center and local funeral directors. The Planner also is participating in the Northern Virginia regional efforts to identify solutions to the issue and develop a regional concept of operations.
- o MRC Orientations for new MRC Volunteers are being conducted every two months.

- Planner met with DOD public health and medical partners in the regularly scheduled monthly meeting that focuses on the development of an integrated public health and medical response plan. Attendance included representatives from Fort Myer, the Pentagon, the JTF-GNO and the Arlington Office of Emergency Management. The Public Health Director and Public Health Emergency Planner participated in PanFlu presentations at Fort Myer. This is the precursor to a more comprehensive PanFlu exercise in July 2007.
- Planner, along with a Georgetown Graduate Intern, are developing a triage and screening clinic model for use during PanFlu. Planning work continues on identifying and working other issues related to community surge.
- Citizen Outreach activities:
 - * Brochure development focuses on personal preparedness and managing illness
 - ➤ Hired a brochure designer known to OEM for previous work on companion OEM brochure
 - \triangleright 2nd draft in progress
 - > contacted appropriate translation resource
 - brochure reviewed by 3 community physicians
 - Virginia Hospital Center and Medical Society agreed to support
 - ➤ Plan to deliver to all Arlington households with Citizen in August/September.
 - ❖ Planning for live Cable TV broadcast event in September "What Arlington County is Doing to Prepare for PanFlu"
 - ➤ Panel discussion/presentations Public Health Director, Public Health Emergency Planner, OEM, Fire/EMS, maybe someone from the hospital
 - ➤ Live audience Civic Federation will support
 - Questions and answer from live audience and call-ins
 - ➤ Rebroadcast in Spanish
 - ➤ Make tape to replay an additional community gatherings e.g. PTAs, Civic Association meetings
 - ➤ Publicize in Citizen, other community venues
- Business Outreach Activities
 - ❖ Met with key leaders at Chamber of Commerce, Business Partnerships
 - ❖ Began outreach to larger corporations to establish better connections for PanFlu planning − SRA, NRECA, SAIC, Pearson, Boeing
 - ❖ Plan to invite representatives to a focus group session on May 2nd. The group will respond to a planning checklist specific for businesses. Overall goal is to encourage planning and give information about public health planning and response.
 - ❖ Plan to tape a five-minute segment on PanFlu preparedness for Biz Launch website in April. In this segment, the Director will respond to interview questions from a Biz Launch staff member. Biz Launch is an initiative of the Arlington Economic Development office and is aimed at small businesses. The segment may be also part of some cable TV programming.
 - Also looking at ways to involve MRC in further outreach to small businesses possibly in collaboration with the Partnerships.
 - ❖ Made outreach efforts to large businesses attempted to identify key contacts in 20 large businesses
- Student Outreach Activities
 - * Tested and revised outreach materials
 - ❖ Identified and obtained outreach materials

❖ Inventoried public health flu preparedness outreach materials.

• Central Virginia

- o Director and the EPI drafted a PanFlu clinical brochure for local physicians. The brochure currently is being reviewed by the local infectious disease board and is scheduled for distribution in near further.
- o EPI executed Syndromic surveillance MOU with CENTRA to implement ESSENCE data collection for early detection of potential PanFlu occurrence.
- o Planner and Epidemiologist participated in the Bedford City/County LEPC meeting, which focused on the business preparedness efforts for PanFlu.
- O Planner and Epidemiologist took part in a joint presentation with the local American Red Cross and Bedford County Emergency Management. The presentation was given to a church based community health council, which consisted of several churches in the Smith Lake Area.
- o Following up on the meeting last month with the CEO of CENTRA Health (local hospital system), Director outlined plans for a regional PanFlu policy planning group to the Region 2000 (PD 11) Local Government Council. The Local Government Council consists of the city and town managers, county administrators and city and town mayors of all the jurisdictions within the District.
- O The initial meeting of the Regional PanFlu policy planning group was held. The group consists of the four county administrators, two city managers and two hospital CEOs from within the District. This group will be exploring regional issues around a flu pandemic. Planners from the jurisdictions already meet on a regular basis.
- O The jurisdictions within the district have formed an area PIO media group, called the Central Virginia Information Network. This group is preparing plans for an individual preparedness campaign that should begin this summer. The group was formed to coordinate public information efforts throughout the District.

• Central Shenandoah

- O Director and Planner gave a PanFlu presentation to the Blue Ridge Safety Association, which is comprised of business leaders and educators who are responsible for their work force. Focus was on the creation of business emergency plans with a section included on PanFlu planning.
- O Director gave a PanFlu report and update to the Augusta County/Staunton City/Waynesboro City Health Forum.
- o Planner followed up on issued Push Method MOUs and inquired on other community partners to whom we could offer the agreement.
- Planner met with the Rockbridge County Area LEPC PanFlu Committee to discuss the development of the county's PanFlu Plan and activities and techniques that could be used to educate the public in advance of the potential emergency.
- Planner met with the Bath County LEPC PanFlu Committee to discuss the issues of Community Surge, PUSH Method Dispensing, Use of Volunteer Rescue and Fire Department facilities during an emergency, Special Needs Populations and Shelters. Also discussed a Fall Forum to meet with the public on the county's planning efforts.
- O Planner met with the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Department of Social Services to discuss the sheltering of medically fragile and special needs community members and to begin discussion of community surge during a PanFlu emergency. It was decided that we would push for a meeting with the local Emergency Managers and Red Cross. Discussed how DSS employees may be used to staff district dispensing sites.
- O Planner and Epidemiologist listened to CDC Public Health Network web-based training on "PanFlu Progress in Training and Exercising".

Chesapeake

- Held the eighth meeting of the Chesapeake PanFlu Task Force, chaired by the Planner. Among the agenda items were a common clinic concept for a pandemic, departmental status matrix for continuity of operations planning, a COOP seminar for local businesses and a survey of business preparedness.
- o Provided 100 PanFlu educational brochures to Chesapeake General Hospital and 300 PanFlu home care brochures to Southeast Virginia Training Center.
- Through telephone communication and fax surveys, obtained capacity data from local funeral homes and presented the information to Chesapeake PanFlu Task Force members at recent meeting.
- Director met with a representative from Chesapeake Care, a Free Health Clinic, who
 has expressed interest in using Chesapeake Care, Free Health Clinic as a common
 clinic venue during a flu pandemic.
- O Planner, PanFlu Assistant and Eastern Region Trainer continue to arrange venue, and refine plans, agenda and preparations for Chesapeake COOP business seminar in June.
- PanFlu hygiene station was deployed at the Chesapeake MRC exhibit table during the Chesapeake Conference Center Health Expo in conjunction with the half marathon "Swamp Stomp."
- Planner attended the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce's Strategic Advantage Program (Business Continuity Planning) at Old Dominion University and used this networking opportunity to market the upcoming Chesapeake Business seminar.
- o Planner met with the Director for Economic Development in Chesapeake for assistance in development and marketing the PanFlu business seminar in June.
- O The final of five guest speakers was secured for the business continuity seminar. They include a Chesapeake business CEO (Jo-Kell, Inc.), the President of the Old Dominion Chapter of the Association of Contingency Planners, a law partner with McGuire Woods, an Information Technology speaker with APC Corp., and Dr. Sue Love, Eastern Region medical consultant.
- o Interviews for part-time administrative assistant for the PanFlu program were conducted and an individual selected.

Chesterfield

- o Educator made presentations to staff at a local high school, an AP biology class at a local high school, a local retired men's group, and congregants at a local church.
- o Educator and School Nurses participated in health fairs at two local high schools.
- o A School Nurse made presentations to five ninth-grade health classes in a local high school.
- o Educator and Epidemiologist attended the VA PanFlu Advisory Committee meeting.
- o Educator rescheduled an upcoming presentation to staff at a local high school for fall 2007.
- o Educator scheduled presentations at a senior health fair (5/2/07), a health fair for county employees (5/7-8/07) and a senior social group (5/15/07).

• Chickahominy

- o Graduate intern and Coordinator sent mailing for PanFlu and Emergency Preparedness Seminars to all churches in Hanover County.
- o Hanover County PIO and VDH EP&R PIO did media announcements about two seminars on PanFlu and Emergency Preparedness offered in the county.
- o Charles City Schools planning to meet again in June to continue PanFlu planning.

- o Seminars on PanFlu and Emergency Preparedness for Hanover County Businesses and Individuals advertised at county-wide Volunteer Workshop.
- O District partnered with New Kent County Emergency Department of Fire and Rescue, New Kent Chamber of Commerce and Providence United Methodist Church to offer New Kent citizens a PanFlu and Emergency Preparedness Seminar at Providence United Methodist Church. New Kent Fire and Rescue did PanFlu information mailing to every citizen in New Kent County, over 7000 citizens.
- PanFlu Coordinator partnered with Hanover Office of Economic Development, Hanover Association of Businesses and Chamber of Commerce and the Association of Contingency Planners to present Hanover County businesses a PanFlu and Emergency Planning seminar. Community sponsors: Randolph Macon College, Memorial Regional Medical Center and Sheltering Arms Rehabilitation Center who all donated money to be used for associated expenses.
- PanFlu Coordinator partnered with Hanover County Christian Church Disciples of Christ and Steve Harrison, VDH Department of Emergency Preparedness and Response Strategic National Stockpile and Assistant State Exercise Coordinator, to present to the citizens of Hanover a PanFlu and Emergency Preparedness Seminar.
- o PanFlu Coordinator working with Infection Control Nurse at MRMC on PanFlu planning.
- o PanFlu materials selected and packet formed for health fairs. Graduate Intern attended AARP health fair; disseminated materials to individuals and organizations with response and invitations for Coordinator to do presentation.
- o Hanover Co. Library listed PanFlu link on their website.
- PanFlu Coordinator and Hanover Co Environmental Health Specialist did PanFlu Q&A session on WHAN, Hanover Radio Station.
- O Graduate Intern working with PanFlu Coordinator; gave PanFlu Presentation to seniors at Springfield Christian Church in Hanover County. PanFlu Coordinator also gave PanFlu Presentations to Charles City County Ruritan Club, Shady Grove United Methodist Church, Springfield Christian Church, PanFlu DVD distributed to Hanover County CVS Pharmacy to play for their customers.

Crater

- o Educator attended the Petersburg PanFlu Advisory Committee meeting, which has begun putting together a plan for the city. A draft plan will be completed by June 1.
- Planner and Epidemiologist held an initial education session for Surry County schools and city officials. The presentation focused on preparedness and continuity of operations for the county. Additional presentations are planned for the county.
- o Director, Planner and Educator attended the District PanFlu Coordinating Committee meeting. Committee is considering seeking grant funds to purchase PPE to be used as a district stockpile. Storage sites within the district are being assessed. All local plans are due to the Committee on June 1. The next meeting will be June 6.
- o Planner held a second education session in Surry County for the county's Emergency Management Council.
- o Educator attended the PanFlu Advisory Committee meeting in Richmond.

• Cumberland Plateau

 PanFlu Coordinator presented on PanFlu to ten Coal Company Human Resource Managers. Planner answered questions regarding the development of a PanFlu Plan for their use.

- Planner and Nurse Supervisor met on two separate occasions with a local public school system to discuss how the local health department can support emergency and PanFlu preparedness efforts.
- O Director, Epidemiologist and District and Regional Planners conducted District training in two separate events, which provided instruction and in-class exercise for all District staff regarding the way in which the ICS and emergency operations plan will be used during a PanFlu event.
- o Planner completed contact information for the U.S. Postal Service's District program for PanFlu planning.
- O Planner met with two nursing homes and one assisted living facility to discuss PanFlu preparedness efforts, special needs, sheltering in place, emergency evacuation, shelter location, shelter responsibilities, event communications and notifications and emergency contact information.
- o District hired a Program Support Technician to assist with PanFlu planning and communication activities.
- o Planner provided PanFlu preparedness information to aid local businesses' efforts to develop a PanFlu plan.
- Lenowisco PanFlu Coordinator presented on PanFlu to a local Chamber of Commerce.
- Director, Nurse, Business and Environmental Health Managers, as well as Epidemiologist conducted two joint reviews and revised the District Emergency Operations Plan following presentations by Planner.

Eastern Shore

- Educator and Epidemiologist presented information to 15 nursing staff members at local Assisted Living and Long Term Care facility. A proper hand-washing demonstration was conducted.
- Educator prepared and distributed a newsletter with information regarding PanFlu and future training sessions for the Medical Reserve Corps; they will be distributed monthly.
- Educator and Planner participated in annual Health Fair at local high school with over 300 people in attendance. Brochures were provided on PanFlu, avian influenza, respiratory hygiene and emergency planning. Volunteers from the CERT and MRC programs assisted.
- o Educator began work on May's issue of the MRC Network newsletter, which will highlight the latest developments in PanFlu education and training opportunities.
- O Planner conducted a Neighborhood Emergency Help Center exercise at Franktown Community Health Center; dispensing site plans were tested.
- Planner met with HHS representative during FEMA gap analysis to discuss health needs on the Eastern Shore during an emergency, including plans for delivery of drugs to special needs populations.
- o In process of scheduling a PanFlu planning workshop with local community services board.

Fairfax

- Met with Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) speaker for the small business seminar series that will occur in May and June in all supervisory districts; developed agenda for the program.
- o Continued crafting the content of the guide, "Caring for Yourself and Others During Influenza" to be mailed to every household in the District.

- Secured future speaking engagement dates for the Northern Virginia Dental Society for early September and for the annual business meeting of the Virginia Dental Society on Sept. 8.
- o Developed publicity products for the small business seminar series including flyers and posters.
- o Reached out to the ethnic media (print, radio and TV) to request they carry information about PanFlu and offered interviews with the Director.
- o Planned a formal press conference to be held by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and the District Director for May 4.
- o Finalized schedule and locations for the N-95 Fit Test Train-the-Trainer campaign for representatives from primary care physician practices.
- Presented to 60 people of Leadership Fairfax, a leadership development organization, regarding PanFlu preparedness and participated in an affiliated Expo with the PanFlu display.
- O Continued planning for the Houses of Worship Summit to be held on May 17 in partnership with Faith Communities in Action, an interfaith group, and the County Interfaith Liaison Office. Met with group of Muslim clerics to educate them about PanFlu and possible impact on that faith's religious practices; encouraged them to participate in the Summit.
- o Presented PanFlu preparedness to 40 members of the McLean Chapter of AAUW.
- o Presented 12 people at the Lifetime Learning Institute.
- O Developed plan for a COOP series for human service community-based organizations to be held over three weeks in July (one session per week).
- o Presented to the Family Resource Center at Annandale High School regarding PanFlu preparedness; Resource Center is comprised predominantly of ethnic minority groups of Latinos and Koreans; 30 people attended the PanFlu presentation.
- o Presented to 30 members of the Sleepy Hollow Civic Association regarding PanFlu.
- o Presented to the Virginia Health Occupation Educational Board's annual Nursing Directors Meeting consisting of about 60 people in Williamsburg.
- o Presented display at Fairfax County Public Schools' Parents' conference for special education.

Hampton

- O Planner continues to meet regularly with Hampton City Schools' PanFlu Working Group and School Safety Committee. The PanFlu response to for the Hampton School System includes flip charts (Safety Response) and "Cover Your Cough" posters and are now in every classroom and other common rooms at every school in the city. Continuing to develop plan for students to be able to use the Internet and local TV station to broadcast some classes. Working group has recommended that Alcohol Hand Cleaner be part of the classroom and is looking at funding.
- Planner met with the Military PanFlu Working Group to discuss the possibility of developing a regional MOU for receipt and distribution of antivirals, antibiotics and or vaccines to TRICARE beneficiaries.
- O Planner and Director met with Langley AFB 1st Medical Group and obtained signed MOU for PanFlu planning and assistance as needed in providing care for patients and distribution of antivirals and vaccine when they become available.
- o Planner continues to meet regularly with the City of Hampton Executive Committee for Safety for response actions in a pandemic outbreak.

- Planner met with Hampton City's Public Works, Police, Fire/EMS, City Attorney, Risk Management, Sheriff's Office and Hampton University to discuss PanFlu preparation.
- Planner continues to work on a comprehensive review of the local public health response plans identifying gaps based on the guidance for PanFlu and the Public Health Ready criteria.
- o Part-time assistant for PanFlu program is now on board.

Henrico

- Epidemiologist, Planner and PanFlu/MRC Coordinator continued their outreach visits to nursing homes and assisted living facilities to discuss outbreak prevention and management, emergency preparedness and PanFlu.
- PanFlu/MRC and Planner continued planning for local PanFlu summit to take place on August 3.
- o Epidemiologist sent weekly avian influenza updates via email to community partners.
- O District sent monthly Public Health Bytes newsletter, which includes a Pandemic/ Avian Flu update) to local healthcare facilities and providers, schools, first responders, county officials and other interested parties.
- o PanFlu/MRC Coordinator and Planner conducted MRC volunteer training on NIMS.
- o The PanFlu/MRC Coordinator conducted a mock activation of the Henrico MRC to test our response capability.
- O Director, Nurse Manager, Epidemiologist, Planner and Senior Nurses met with officials from RediClinic to review disease reporting procedures, access to care issues and emergency preparedness. RediClinics are outpatient care centers located at Walmart stores throughout the Richmond area.
- O Director, Planner and PanFlu/MRC Coordinator met with County officials to discuss renovation plans to convert an unused jail facility into a contingency quarantine facility. Potential funding for this project through the CDC PanFlu grant. This was an initial meeting to determine how to proceed with the project.
- o Planner conducted a review of the District Emergency Operations Plan with the District Managers and Supervisors.
- o Planner met with the county employee health services to develop an MOU that will enable employee health personnel to augment District personnel during a mass vaccination/dispensing operation. The MOU is currently in draft form.
- PanFlu/MRC Coordinator attended the National MRC Conference, which included training on strategies for including the MRC in PanFlu planning and preparedness activities.
- o PanFlu/MRC Coordinator conducted PanFlu training for Adult English as a Second Language (ESL) classes in Henrico.
- o PanFlu/MRC Coordinator conducted PanFlu personal, family and business preparedness training for approximately 50 Wal-mart employees.
- o Planner, Epidemiologist, and Director conducted test of communications equipment, including satellite phones, GETS cards, and 800 MHZ radios.
- o PanFlu/MRC Coordinator conducted an e-mail test alert for the MRC volunteers. Of 200 volunteers contacted, we received 75 replies from volunteers (a 37.5% response rate), which indicated that, had it been an actual emergency, they would be available to assist the District in our emergency response.

Lenowisco

o Planner and PanFlu Coordinator attended Health Fair for local Community Services Board (CSB). Information on EP&R, Health Education and PanFlu was provided.

- Planner and PanFlu Coordinator attended the School Task Force Meeting. PanFlu Coordinator informed task force members of upcoming local television broadcast of PanFlu presentation.
- Planner and PanFlu Coordinator met with local home health agencies on their emergency operations plan and discussed PanFlu planning.
- Planner and PanFlu Coordinator met with the Jonesville Masons and Lions Club, Manville Ruritan, Scott County Rotary Club and Wise County Chamber of Commerce and provided a PowerPoint Presentation.
- Epidemiologist, Planner and PanFlu Coordinator met with the Lee County Chamber of Commerce, Norton Kiwanis Club and various local coal industry human resources directors and provided a PowerPoint Presentation.
- o Front page article written and published by weekly Lee County newspaper about PanFlu Coordinator's presentation to Lee County Chamber of Commerce.
- Epidemiologist and PanFlu Coordinator attended HRSA meeting in Bristol, VA.
 PanFlu Coordinator shared information/best practices for PanFlu brochures being developed by HRSA for distribution.
- Director, Epidemiologist, Planner and PanFlu Coordinator attended the Emergency Preparedness and Response Executive Committee meeting. PanFlu Coordinator provided a presentation on PanFlu to the committee.

Lord Fairfax

- o Director participated in the PanFlu Advisory Committee Meeting in Richmond.
- o Planner attended After-Action Conference for the 2006 VDEM Region II PanFlu tabletop exercise held November 2006 in Fredericksburg.
- o Planner conducted tabletop exercise for the Lord Fairfax Community College for the business community through the LFCC Workforce Development Program.
- o Planner presented a PanFlu planning update to the Northern Shenandoah Valley Emergency Managers group.
- o Planner presented a PanFlu planning update to the Warren County Emergency Management Group.
- Planner presented a PanFlu planning update to the Frederick/Winchester Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Loudoun

- o Initiated discussion regarding planning for special needs populations at the Disabilities/Special Needs Partnership (DSNP) group meeting. The link to the County PanFlu plan was shared with this group and with the Disabilities Services Board (DSB).
- Provided PanFlu seminar for 18 Loudoun County small business owners and managers at a session hosted by the Loudoun Small Business Development Center and the Loudoun Chamber of Commerce in Sterling, VA.
- o Consulted with representatives of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy, Ashburn, VA, concerning their request for periodic PanFlu education sessions for law enforcement command staff, in-service and recruit personnel.
- o Consulted with the Mental Health Substance Abuse Group Home supervisor regarding the infection control portion of their PanFlu plan.
- Consulted with Masters-level communications student from George Washington University regarding her special project which includes producing a short DVD for schools on PanFlu prevention.
- Provided a PanFlu presentation to six members of the South Riding Community Emergency Response Team in South Riding, VA.

- Provided a PanFlu presentation to the instructor and 16 members of the Administration of Justice (law enforcement) class at the C.S. Monroe Technology Center in Leesburg.
- Scheduled three PanFlu presentations for law enforcement recruit classes at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy in Ashburn, VA, for June 18-20, 2007.

Mount Rogers

- District and Regional Planners and the Epidemiologist met with representatives of Marion Correctional facility to discuss PanFlu planning and dealing with a POD for employees and inmates. Many or all of the employees will become MRC volunteers and operate a POD for the Correctional facility under the direction of Mount Rogers Health District.
- o Planner provided mask fit testing "train the trainer" for selected staff at Southwestern Va. Mental Health Institute and assisted with fit testing staff for N-95 masks.
- Planner provided PanFlu emergency preparedness lecture to nursing students at Wythe Community College.
- o Planner provided presentation to students at SW Law Enforcement Academy on Bloodborne Pathogens. Included in the presentation was information on PanFlu.
- Planner is a new member of the Smyth County School Health Advisory Board.
 Board is discussing ideas for presenting health and preparedness information to students in Smyth County.
- Planner and Director working on an emergency preparedness partnership with Southwestern Va. Mental Health Institute in utilizing extra space located on the campus.

New River

- Planner continues interaction with partner agencies/local government, school systems and colleges/universities as they move forward with pandemic preparedness planning.
- o Director, Epidemiologist, Planner and other District staff continue collaboration with Regional Team for consistency in pandemic preparedness.
- o Finalized MOU for mass dispensing with Radford University.
- o Pandemic and all-hazards emergency preparedness, response, and recovery planning with colleges/universities, partner agencies, and local governments has proven to be invaluable for managing the challenges at VA Tech.

Norfolk

- O District staff promoted PanFlu DVDs at a public health recognition event during National Public Health Week.
- o Planner continues developing continuity of operations plan templates for large local businesses and city departments/agencies.
- Planner assisted multiple local businesses in facilitating PanFlu committee meetings;
 shared and distributed NDPH PanFlu educational/preparedness DVDs.
- Epidemiologist helped a Norfolk assisted living facility with developing a staff respiratory protection program, by writing a respiratory protection plan, selecting suitable NIOSH approved respirators and fit testing respirators for 20 key facility staff members.
- Planner discussed PanFlu preparedness, along with other emergency preparedness topics, at the Region II Virginia Health Occupation Educators Association conference.

Peninsula

- o Planner provided PanFlu updates from CIDRAP to key players at each acute care facility, the military clinics and the emergency managers.
- Planner met with the homeowners' association leadership for Ford's Colony, which has about 400 homes in the community, regarding jurisdictional and health department preparations.

• Piedmont

- O Director participated as panelist at the Virginia Public Health Association annual meeting on the topic of emergency communication.
- o Director attended Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting for Farmville/Prince Edward County.
- Several key staff members participated in an ICS planning process exercises and training event.
- Planner delivered PanFlu preparedness presentation to Buckingham Correctional Center
- O District hosted a Crisis Communications training event (taught by VDH EP&R Central Region PIO) for our community partners. The 29 attendees included representatives from local county governments, local public safety communications, local community health centers, local community services boards, local school systems, local colleges and universities, local hospital, local home health agencies, local Departments of Social Services, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Virginia Department of Corrections and Virginia Department of Health.
- o District interviewed for PanFlu Health Educator. The successful candidate accepted the position and has started work.
- o Planner delivered PanFlu preparedness presentation to local EMS agency.
- o Planner attended 2007 MRC National Leadership Conference.

• Pittsvlvania Danville

- o Educator continues to call businesses, community clubs and churches to offer PanFlu planning programs.
- o Educator has designed specific PanFlu programs to meet organizations' needs.
- o Educator continues to research the latest developments concerning the avian influenza activity in the world and also the latest developments in planning for PanFlu.
- Educator has presented programs to the following groups: Danville Social Service Department employees, Danville-Pittsylvania Community Services (Mental Retardation Division), Arbor Baptist Church members, Danville Headstart employees and Pittsylvania County Community Action Seniors.
- o Educator has a Health Fair at Wal-Mart scheduled for May 18, 2007.

Portsmouth

- o Continued work on draft PanFlu plan outline.
- o Full-time Senior Health Educator hired whose duties will include support of PanFlu programs.
- Part-time PanFlu Coordinator EWP has been finalized and the position is moving into the recruitment phase.
- o Senior Nurse Manager presented program on Avian and Pandemic Influenza, entitled "The Birds" at the 2007 District Open House
- O Director and Planner met with the Portsmouth Sheriff and the medical staff of the city jail. A process for screening new inmates during a pandemic was developed and communication lines between the new administration and the health department were re-established. Specific pre-planning points for the department were reiterated. The

Sheriff offered to facilitate a meeting with the Clerk of the Court and her office to discuss the administrative issues surrounding isolation and quarantine.

• Prince William

- Reviewing District's respiratory plan to determine mask fitting needs and PPE training.
- o Planner attended the VDH PanFlu Advisory Committee Meeting in Richmond.
- Epidemiologist, Director and Special Needs Planner attended the Prince William County PanFlu Task Force.

• Rappahannock

- Planner attended the Mary Washington Hospital Disaster Committee meeting, recommending that the hospital work with the City of Fredericksburg to add a PanFlu annex to the City's plan.
- o Planner presented a PanFlu program to the Germanna Community College's senior staff. The College will work with the District and the appropriate jurisdictions to develop its PanFlu plan.
- Planner attended VDEM after-action report meeting in Warrenton to capture improvement areas from the VDEM Region Two PanFlu tabletop held earlier this year.
- o Planner, Epidemiologist and Educator met to discuss current PanFlu budget and district needs.
- o Planner and Regional PIO presented a "virtual" Joint Information Center (JIC) program to area PIOs.
- o Planner, Epidemiologist and Educator met to review a community survey on PanFlu preparedness currently under development.
- O Planner and Epidemiologist attended the Caroline County School's Health Advisory Council meeting who are working on a PanFlu plan. Planner and Epidemiologist gave a presentation to ten members.
- o Planner, Epidemiologist and Educator met to discuss community assessment and survey development.
- o Epidemiologist and Educator attended PanFlu planning meeting of regional jails group at Pneumansend Creek Regional Jail.
- o Planner made "PanFlu and Public Information" presentation to 50 school PIOs having state-wide meeting in Fredericksburg.
- o Planner, Epidemiologist and Educator meet with District's PanFlu PIO group.

• Rappahannock-Rapidan

- Epidemiologist met with the Fauquier Schools' Health Advisory Board, in collaboration with Fauquier County Fire & Rescue personnel, to discuss PanFlu Planning in the schools.
- District held an EP&R training day for district staff. Trainings offered included: Epidemiology Response Team - training on mass vaccination; Terrorism Security Awareness Orientation and NIMS.
- o Planner gave a class on developing a Respiratory Protection Program to representatives from local physician's offices.
- o Immunizations Nurse included PanFlu in a training she presented at the UVA School of Nursing.
- Planner and PanFlu Intern received more inquiries and requests from faith-based organizations concerning the recent mailing. We are scheduling additional presentations.

- o The RRMRC held a mass vaccination drill. This included volunteers and staff setting up a mass vaccination site, as well as practice vaccinating the public.
- o The RRMRC activated and tested their new volunteer response system.
- o Volunteer Coordinator attended the National MRC Conference where one of the presentations was "PanFlu: Link to Local Community Volunteers."
- o The local Pandemic Preparedness Coordinating Committee met.
- Planner presented information on PanFlu and Preparedness to Culpeper District VDOT employees.

• Richmond City

- o Hired PanFlu Coordinator, who has started work with the District.
- o Working with First Responder to establish training needs.
- o Briefing given to Human Services Portfolio within City Government to discuss training City employees on PanFlu awareness needs, dates being determined.
- o Public Health Response Team policy adopted by Management Team.
- o Individuals identified that respond to certain types of events and training on their specific job/disaster related duties.
- o Job Action Sheets being developed for staff response during PanFlu events.
- o Met with Richmond City Jail/Richmond Sheriff's Office PanFlu Planners; discussed priorities and reviewed current responses.
- o Exchanged PanFlu Introductory course materials with other Virginia coordinators.
- o Developed priority list for PanFlu educational training in District's health agencies.

• Roanoke/Alleghany County

- o Educator held roundtable planning meeting with local colleges.
- o Educator received and reviewed the draft PanFlu plan from Hollins University.
- Educator distributed PanFlu plans to local colleges from University of Maryland and Northland Community College for their review and guidance; they can be viewed at the following links:
 - http://www.northlandcollege.edu/humanresources/docs/06_PandemicPlan.pdf http://www.umd.edu/emergencypreparedness/pandemic_flu/intro.cfm.
- o Educator participated in the CDC web cast, "Pandemic Influenza: Progress in Planning and Exercising: Federal, State, and Local Perspective."
- Educator sent the USDA's "Keep Bird Flu Out of the United States" poster to the Roanoke Regional Airport for posting and distribution, which can be viewed at: http://www.pandemicflu.gov/issues/keepbirdfluout.pdf.
- Educator held a roundtable meeting for the K-12 school systems in Alleghany & Roanoke City Health Districts to discuss PanFlu planning. The following documents were distributed to aid in planning:
 http://www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/about/flu/resources_flu_action_kit.html
 - http://www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/about/flu/resources_flu_action_kit.html http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/studentsrvcs/PanFlu.pdf
- o Educator ordered PanFlu brochures and planning guides from the Channing-Bete printing company for Roanoke and Alleghany health districts.
- o Educator requested a copy of a mock PanFlu news conference and a mock PanFlu news report from the state of Nebraska Department of Health. Both items demonstrate the correct and incorrect ways to report on a PanFlu situation. The videos give guidance on dealing with the media.

Southside

- o Educator scheduled one Presentation for a Halifax County School for June.
- Educator conducted a PanFlu Presentation for 16 members of the Aaron's Creek Ruritan Club.

- Educator attended infection control presentation conducted in a Bluestone Middle School health education class.
- Educator conducted PanFlu and an infection control presentation for Parkview Middle School's mini health fair.
- Educator completed organization for a PanFlu and infection control presentation for all first- through fifth-graders at Buckhorn Elementary for their field day event on June 1.
- Educator conducted a PanFlu presentation and infection control training for 66 members of the Chase City Elementary school PTA/PTO.
- Bluestone Middle School health education teachers are now presenting information on infection control and good hygiene information to the students, using the "Why Don't We Do It in Our Sleeves" videos in the classrooms.
- Parkview High School teachers are presenting infection control and hygiene information to the students. They are using the "Why Don't We Do It in Our Sleeves" video.
- o Presented a PanFlu and infection control presentation to a ten-member class of nursing students at Higher Education Learning Center in South Boston.
- o Educator scheduled a PanFlu and infection control presentation for the South Hill Elementary School PTA/PTO for June 7.
- Educator attended MRC Conference in Rhode Island and attended PanFlu informational sessions.
- o EH Supervisor conducted a PanFlu and infection control presentation for over 100 members of South of Dan Elementary School PTO.
- o Director, Public Health Nurse and Nutritionist attended the Parkview Middle School health fair assisting with any PanFlu questions and presenting other health measures.

• Thomas Jefferson

- New PanFlu Coordinator hired.
- PanFlu Coordinator established links to the health district web site from Greene,
 Louisa, Fluvanna and Nelson counties' home pages.
- o PanFlu Coordinator contacted Long-Term Care Administrators for a meeting in June about how to prepare their residents, staff and families for a PanFlu.
- PanFlu Coordinator contacted larger private schools and boarding schools for a meeting in May about the PanFlu.
- Distributed PanFlu information and materials to area churches, non-profit organizations and large area employers.
- o PanFlu Coordinator set up a display at Midway Manor, an assisted living facility, and at a community fair for people who are taking English as a second language courses.
- o PanFlu handouts were inserted into the water bill for Louisa County residents.
- o Director, along with UVA and MJH, did a CME physicians training on clinical decision making during a pandemic when resources are scarce.
- o Director provided a PanFlu overview for Nelson County administrator and Board of Supervisors' members.
- o Planner provided PanFlu update for local emergency planning committee meeting.

Three Rivers

O District conducted a PanFlu Continuity Planning Seminar in Westmoreland County. The day-long event included speakers from VDH, VDEM, and Community Services Board (CSB), a question and answer session with the panel of speakers, lunch, and breakout sessions in the afternoon on Family and Individual Planning, Long Term

- Care, Infection Control, Volunteers/Volunteer Organizations, and Risk Communication.
- O Planner met with Westmoreland County Department of Social Services to discuss PanFlu planning. A presentation to staff members is scheduled for May 22.
- Planner met with Rappahannock Community College Buildings and Grounds Supervisor to answer inquiries about PanFlu planning presentations to Buildings and Grounds staff, Administration Staff, and School of Nursing faculty and students.
- o Planner attended Military PanFlu Working Group meeting in Norfolk.
- Planner conducted Introduction to PanFlu training class to MRC Volunteers in King William County
- o Planner gave presentation on PanFlu at Tappahannock Free Clinic Community Health Education program.
- o Planner met with Mathews County Emergency Manager to discuss PanFlu preparedness and the possibility of conducting a drive-thru influenza vaccination clinic exercise at the Fire and Rescue Squad building in the fall.
- o Planner met with the Gloucester County LEPC and presented the idea of conducting a drive-thru influenza vaccination clinic exercise in the fall.
- o Planner participated in Regional Jail Multi-Disciplinary/Multi-Agency Emergency Preparedness PanFlu Planning meeting at Pneumansend Creek Regional Jail.

• Virginia Beach

- O Held Pandemic Planning Committee meeting and discussed Community Mitigation Report and ramifications for the city's overall plan. Reviewed Workgroup reports and added recommendations from the committee for the overall Management Leadership Team report to be completed by June 2007.
- Informed committee that Phase III money may be available and asked the committee to review the recommendations and needs to start work on prioritization for next budget process.
- Emergency Planner spoke at the City-County Communication and Marketing Conference regarding "Marketing Emergency Preparedness for the Community".
 Discussed successes and failures of our media campaign for pandemic influenza.
- o The Pandemic Committee voted and it was decided that the citywide tabletop would be held at the beginning of October.
- o The school tabletop will be held this summer, date to be determined. The Virginia Beach Public Schools also asked the Emergency Planner to come and speak at the Principles' in-service this summer to educate them on pandemic influenza and the ramifications for schools.
- o To date, the Emergency Planner has received 25 department-level plans out of 32 departments and is currently reviewing them.
- o A hygiene station has been purchased for every department in the city.

West Piedmont

 Planner and Epidemiologist attended the Memorial Hospital of Martinsville, PanFlu plan update meeting, where they made suggestions to the hospital's plan that might help increase its effectiveness.

• Western Tidewater

O Planner and Epidemiologist attended the monthly Franklin/Southampton PanFlu Committee Meeting, which was also attended by: the Franklin City Manager and Executive Secretary, Franklin Emergency Manager, Southampton Memorial Hospital Safety Officer, Southampton Memorial Hospital CEO and Southampton County Sheriff. The sub-committees met to discuss further their specific areas. Each sub-

- committee will present their goals, implementation and plan development at the next meeting on May 2 at noon at Southampton Memorial Hospital, Franklin.
- o The monthly Suffolk Biological/Terrorism Advisory Committee (BTAC) meeting is scheduled for May 10 at 9AM at Sentara Obici Hospital in Suffolk.
- O Planner, Epidemiologist, Nurse Manager, and Director attended the Suffolk Public Schools' Health Advisory Committee meeting. The committee consists of two school nurses, the assistant superintendent, two teachers, two support staff representatives, and several high school students. The recently completed Suffolk Public Schools PanFlu plan was discussed. Further discussion included impact of PanFlu on school functions at different stages of a pandemic. Also, the students were advised to bring the issue of PanFlu preparation to their classmates and parents.
- Director attended the Suffolk LEPC Meeting, which was also attended by CIBA specialty chemicals representative, Virginia Department of Transportation, two representatives from Kraft, Suffolk City Fire Chief, Suffolk Police Department, Lipton representative and the District MRC coordinator. Issues with PanFlu were discussed again.
- o The Isle of Wight County PanFlu Committee meeting is schedule for May 30 at 2 p.m. at the IOW School Board office.
- o Planner attended a Ruritan Club meeting and presented PanFlu planning and preparation.
- o Planner attended a PTA meeting at Hardy Elementary school in Isle of Wight County. PanFlu was discussed, emphasizing pandemic preparation and planning.
- o Epidemiologist presented PanFlu to all District staff of the District during a one-day District meeting.
- o A Southampton County PanFlu Group is still being organized. As soon as a time and place are confirmed, Planner and Epidemiologist will attend and offer support.